

What is claimed is:

- 1           1.       A shell casing for enclosing a case of a tape measure comprising:  
2                   a first concave shell with malleable interior sections;  
3                   a second concave shell with malleable interior sections; and  
4                   adjustable connection means for connecting said first concave shell to said  
5           second concave shell thereby enclosing the case of the tape measure.
  
- 1           2.       The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 1 further  
2           comprising:  
3                   a blade connected to at least one of said concave shells.
  
- 1           3.       The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 1 further  
2           comprising:  
3                   a retractable blade molded into at least one of said concave shells wherein said  
4           retractable blade is molded flush within said concave shell.
  
- 1           4.       The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 2 further  
2           comprising:  
3                   a lead pencil connected to at least one of said concave shells.
  
- 1           5.       The shell casing for enclosing the case of the tape measure of Claim 2 further  
2           comprising:  
3                   a retractable lead pencil molded into at least one of said concave shells wherein  
4           said retractable lead pencil is molded flush within said concave shell.

1        6.     A combination tool comprising:  
 2                a tape measure in a case; and  
 3                a retractable cutting blade located inside said case and arranged to make cuts  
 4                corresponding to measurement increments arranged on said tape measure.

1        7.     A combination tool comprising:  
 2                a tape measure in a case; and  
 3                a retractable pencil molded inside said case in a flush manner and arranged to  
 4                make pencil marks corresponding to measurement increments arranged on said tape  
 5                measure, said tape measure including a nail hole at its exposed end.

1        8.     The combination tool of Claim 6 wherein:  
 2                said tape measure includes a nail hole at its exposed end.

1        9.     The combination tool of Claim 7 wherein:  
 2                said retractable pencil is adapted to use interchangeable leads or limestone.

1        10.    The combination tool of Claim 7 wherein:  
 2                said retractable lead pencil is a mechanical lead pencil molded into said case in a  
 3                flush manner.

1        11.    The combination tool of Claim 7 further comprising:  
 2                a clear indicator window located proximate to said tape measure said indicator  
 3                window including an index line located in line with said measurement increments.

1        12.    A method of making precise measured cuts on objects comprising the steps of:  
 2                measuring a distance using a combination tool comprising a tape measure in a  
 3                case;

4 cutting the object at said measured distance by extending a retractable blade  
5 located inside said case wherein said blade is arranged to make cuts corresponding to  
6 measurement increments arranged on said tape measure.

1 13. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the steps of:  
2 positioning a clear window above said measurement increments to view and line  
3 up said measurement increments with an index line which corresponds to measurement  
4 increments on said tape measure.

1 14. The method of Claim 12 further comprising the steps of:  
2 making a measurement mark in pencil by extending a retractable pencil lead  
3 corresponding to said measurement marks on said tape measure.

1 15. A method of making precise measured cuts on objects as in Claim 12 further  
2 comprising the steps of:  
3 including a nail hole in said tape measure at an exposed end;  
4 inserting a nail through said nail hole into the object; and  
5 rotating said case about the nail in arc to make a circular measured cut in the  
6 object.